Claims

1. A method for evaluating a material body by a scattered light observation system which observes a gel state or a gel-formable sol state material body illuminated with a coherent light through a two dimensional image recognizing means, characterized in that a gel state or a change in sol-gel state of said material body is evaluated based on the conditions of a light section formed on the image forming surface or conditions of the speckle pattern.

2. The method for evaluating a material body according to claim 1, wherein the material body is a gel shape food article or a gel-formable sol shape food article (including a drink), and its quality and change in quality are evaluated.

3. The method for evaluating a material body according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a member having at least a part through which irradiated light can permeate is intervened between the material body and the aforementioned two-dimensional light observation system.

4. The method for evaluating a material body according to claim 1, 2 or 3, wherein wavelength of the irradiation light is within the range of from visible light to near infrared.

5. The method for evaluating a material body according to claim 2, 3 or 4, wherein the released state of water existing in a sealed and packaged product of the material body is detected.

6. The method for evaluating a material body according to claim 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5, wherein the material body is put in a dynamic state.

7. A device for carrying out the material body evaluation method described in claim 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, characterized in that the material body constituting at least one

row in the transverse direction against a moving direction, the light irradiation device which irradiates a light having at least one spot shape or line shape section traversing the moving direction (this may be fixed to or separated from a light irradiation photographing device prepared by arranging at least one of the two-dimensional image recognizing means) or at least one of them is moved by a moving means, thereby carrying out scanning measurement of almost full face or full face of each material body which can be observed in the photographing direction of the two-dimensional image recognizing means.